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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SAM BROWBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rabbi Dr. Bernhard H. Rosenberg, Edison, NJ.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, grant us the ability to face this new day with faith and optimism. Empower the men and women of this respected Senate with strength to live and labor with sincerity of purpose. Enable them to be of good courage in moments of adversity and endow them with fortitude to fulfill their daily tasks. Bless our revered Senators with vigor of body and health of mind. Bless them with the power to face the challenge of leadership with valor.

Bless our country, the United States of America, and shield its inhabitants from every enemy and danger. Help our Senators guard the liberties we hold sacred. Grant that our country will serve as an inspiring light for liberty loving people throughout the world. Inspire our Senators to help create a world of freedom, equality, and justice for all.

Lord, teach us to walk along the path of life with faith in Thee and trust in Thy wisdom. In the words of the poet, grant me "the courage to change the things I can change, the serenity to accept those I cannot change, and the wisdom to know the difference". Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SAM BROWBACK led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 11, 2003.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SAM BROWBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWBACK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10 a.m. At 10 o'clock, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 14, the Energy bill. Pending is the Reid second-degree amendment to the Feinstein first-degree amendment on the issue of derivatives.

There are a number of Members who are reviewing those amendments at this time. It is a complicated issue. I know that a number of people, including the chairman of the Agriculture Committee, will want to speak on the amendment.

In the interim, it is my hope that we will continue to make progress on the bill and work through other amendments that may be offered. Also, as we have discussed over the course of this

week, we would like to be able to lock in a list of the remaining amendments to the Energy bill during today's session.

I remind my colleagues we will vote on the confirmation of the nomination of Richard Wesley to be a Circuit Court Judge for the Second Circuit at 11:15 this morning.

In addition, there are a number of other Executive Calendar nominations ready for votes, and we will attempt to set a time certain for votes on those as well.

Also, with respect to the schedule, Senator MCCONNELL has continued to work for a vote on the Burma sanctions bill. I am very hopeful that over the course of the morning we will be able to address this very important and timely issue and bring this to closure. As I indicated yesterday, I fully support his efforts and we will work for a resolution today. The Senate, I believe, should speak loudly and clearly on the recent actions in Burma.

We would also like to consider and complete the FAA reauthorization this week, and we will continue to look for a way to schedule that matter.

In addition, there are other issues I have mentioned each morning on which we are working. It is important for our colleagues to come together so we can address them in a straightforward and timely manner, including the issue surrounding the bioshield bill.

Mr. REID. Will the majority leader yield for a comment on the schedule?

Mr. FRIST. Yes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, first of all, we will have for the leader sometime today a finite list of amendments from our side. Also, Senator FEINSTEIN, when she left last night, said she was not going to agree to have her amendment set aside. The reason for that is somewhat based on last year when she worked with Senator Gramm for more than a week trying to get something on that amendment and she never did. She kept setting it aside, but she said she would not do that this time.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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